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## A sign that fall has arrived



MICHELLE ALLENBERG/  
WELLAND  
TIMMSDALE  
Pereza Hojzan, owner of Town and Country Farm in Ridgeville, organizes pumpkins harvested in time for this first day of fall. Hojzan's Pelham farm can be found at the bend on Canboro Road just east of Evingham Street.



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# UPFRONT

■ **COMMUNITY:** Southern Niagara airport renamed

## Praises soar as aviation heroine honoured

**MICHELLE ALLENBERG**

Postmedia Network

Dorothy Rungeing, Canada's flying hero and Pelham housewife, was honoured Saturday at Lookout Point Retirement Village.

"Today is a great day for our airport, the day on which we name our airport in honour of a great hero in aviation," Pelham Ward 1 Coun. Richard Rybiak said in his opening remarks at the ceremony.

The 104-year-old Rungeing attended the event to receive recognition for her lifetime of flying and for paving the way for female pilots.

Niagara's southern municipal airport was renamed Niagara Central Dorothy Rungeing Airport, and the church at Lookout Point was filled with supporters and well-wishers. Members from the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots, flew in to be part of the historic event.

Rybiak said he was "thrilled" to see so many people in support of Rungeing and that people came from all over to be part of the event.

"You're a wonderful crowd here, and you're all wonderful people," Rungeing said.

Rungeing's funny stories about her flying adventures had everyone laughing. She reminisced about a time she was flying with her husband, son and dog. They had reached 10,000 feet and she said from the back of the airplane a little voice said "I got to go".

She said she had never had to deal with something like that, and "you know it takes time to get down from 10,000 feet."

They found an abandoned airport and managed to land. As she smiled, she said once they stopped the plane her son turned to her and her husband and said, "You know, I don't have to go." The audience erupted in laughter.

Rungeing was presented with gifts from John Durley, Pelham Ward 3 councillor.



MICHELLE ALLENBERG/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Dorothy Rungeing speaks to a crowd about her accomplishments of being one of the first female pilots in Canada.

She was also presented with a plaque from local politicians and members of the airport.

"There is zero argument that Dorothy Rungeing is a true Canadian hero and someone who deserves to be recognized and she did what she did at a time when there was just starting to be a glimmer that

women could actually accomplish this," Rybiak said.

A bill was introduced in the provincial legislature by West-Glanbrook MPP Tim Hudak on behalf of Niagara Central Airport Commission to change the name of the airport. The bill was introduced during spring of this year and

was passed unanimously.

"One of the things to note is the speed in which it occurred. It was in the spring and here we are. Legislation doesn't usually pass that quickly," Rybiak said.

Everyone agreed Rungeing was an inspiration to aspiring pilots and to women in gen-

eral. She started flying at a time when few women were involved in aviation. She was the first Canadian woman to have an airline transport licence and was the first to fly a helicopter solo.

She also received many trophies throughout her life for racing, including the Amelia

Earhart Medal.

Rungeing said if it weren't for the support of her husband Charlie, she wouldn't have gone to her first air race.

"I want to thank everyone for being so kind," she said.

michelle.allenberg@postmedia.ca

## MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS



FILE PHOTO

Pelham's town hall.

## Pelham town hall needs to grow up

WAYNE CAMPBELL  
For The Tribune

Pelham's town hall should grow up — literally.

An architect last week laid out to town councillors three options for the future of the municipal building.

In a presentation on an event facility addition, John Grgric said a \$467,200 addition to the east side of the municipal building would contain washrooms and storage area.

It would serve events such as bandshell concerts, the farmers' market, supper market and festivals in Pelham Peace Park and the town square.

Grgric said the addition would be designed to connect to the rest of town hall. It would relieve a shortage of washrooms available for employees as well as the public.

The proposal for the event facility addition will become part of town council's 2016 budget considerations.

Grgric said the 222-square-metre addition would be designed to accommodate a second storey in the future.

An extension built in 2010, added a new council chamber and offices to the municipal building. It was similarly designed to accommodate a second floor.

In looking ahead five years, Grgric said increases in staff, population and services would probably call for an expansion of the building.

That could be done by adding second floors to the two additions.

About 20 years down the road, the town would have to look at the original 1967 building. Such buildings have a life span of about 50 to 60 years, he said in answer to a question from council.

Pelham may consider tearing that section down and replacing it with a two or three-storey section.

Currently the municipal building has 804 square metres of space, he said.

By adding the events facility, it would increase to 1,026 square feet. In five to seven years the town may need 1,800 square metres to provide its services.

In comparison to other municipalities of similar size, Pelham's administration building is small, he said.

resulted in Tuesday's arrest of 26-year-old James Aaron Charles Cronin. Police laid 11 charges.

Cronin is charged with two counts each of possessing child pornography and distributing child pornography, and single counts of making child pornography, voyeurism, distributing intimate images and assault.

He is also charged with two counts of failing to comply with a probation order and one count of failing to comply with a Criminal Code prohibition order.

He was held in custody pending the outcome of a Wednesday bid hearing at the Robert S. K. Welch Courthouse in St. Catharines.

Tribune records show Cronin, then 20, was arrested in June 2010 for child pornography possession and accessing child porn as a result of a tip from the National Child Exploitation Co-ordination Centre in Ottawa.

## IN BRIEF

### German mortar will remain at memorial

A captured German trench mortar will remain at the First World War cenotaph in Ridgeville.

Pelham council reversed an earlier decision to remove the mortar following a meeting of local residents, legion representatives, museum operators, councillors and staff.

The mortar will remain at the site with the cenotaph, undergo restoration and be part of a landscaping project. It will include the restored memorial and a plaque explaining its historical significance.

Ward 1 Coun. Richard Rybiak said he no longer opposed keeping the mortar after attending the meeting.

He understands its unique history and the symbolism involved, "as long as the artifact is properly identified for its significance." The cenotaph erected in 1921 has the names of 18 Pelham Township residents who did not return from the First World War.

The German trench mortar was captured during the war and donated to Pelham by the federal government as a spoil of war.

### College students ride free

Pelham Transit will receive \$10,000 from the Niagara College student administrative council to allow students to ride free with their U-Pass bus cards.

The deal covers the school year. Students are already riding free as part of the single bus service's September introductory service.

The bus runs from Fenwick to Fonthill and onto Niagara College's Welland campus where students can switch connects with other campus sites.

Starting Oct. 1 regular rates of \$3 a ride will take effect.

Recreation director Vickie van Ravenswaay said she will meet with Brock University to talk about similar arrangement for university students.

Pelham transit is a two-year pilot project serving Pelham communities and linking with the Niagara Regional Transit service. It began Sept. 8.

### Retired Pelham fire truck to pump for First Nation

A retired 1991 pump truck will serve a First Nations community in northern Ontario. Town council agreed to donate the truck to Rotary Club of Welland, which will arrange to

ship it to Bearskin Lake First Nation.

The community of 475 people about 730 kilometres north of Sioux Lookout in northwest Ontario had its 1982 fire truck break down.

Pelham fire Chief Bob Lymburner said the town's truck was decommissioned because it was 23 years old and not eligible for insurance coverage under provincial regulations.

"The reserve operates under the federal government which has a whole different set of rules," he said.

The town donated the truck to the Rotary club because it will cover the cost of shipping the truck to Sioux Lookout for \$7,000 and a similar cost to take it over ice roads to Bearskin Lake.

### Ken Kernaghan remembered

Brock University professor Ken Kernaghan was recognized with a moment of silence at last week's Pelham town council meeting.

The Order of Canada member and longtime Pelham resident died Sept. 14 at 74.

Mayor Dave Augustyn said the town honoured him for his contributions to the university and to his community. Kernaghan taught at Brock for 39 years and was recognized for work in the field of public administration as a scholar in ethics and accountability.

## Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc. Proudly Supporting Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Each NPEI employee who typically wears a yellow or white hard hat, including all Linemen and those in the Field Services like our Engineering Technicians received a pink hard hat to wear for the month of October. Your Local Utility is Part of Your Community for 100 years.



Give a little time to make a big difference. Volunteers.

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www.npei.ca

## IN BRIEF

### Pelham man arrested for child porn, voyeurism

A 26-year-old Pelham man faces a string of criminal charges including voyeurism and making child pornography.

The Niagara Regional Police Service Internet child exploitation unit conducted an investigation that has

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John Tobon, managing director

Peter Conrad, managing editor

## Creative solution for Great War trench mortar

DAVE AUGUSTYN  
For PelhamNews

Back in the spring, I wrote briefly in my capital budget update about efforts to restore the First World War cenotaph and German mortar at Old Pelham Town Hall. Since that time, thanks to the direction of a committed group of residents and funding support from Veterans Affairs, the town beautifully restored the lead lettering on the historic cenotaph. (If you have not seen the work yet, I would encourage you to stop by Old Pelham Town Hall sometime.)

But, that left the future of the trench mortar uncertain. The town received a pricey estimate to restore the mortar — more

than \$30,000 plus the costs for a new base. Another option? Niagara Military Museum generously offered to remove the mortar from the site and painstakingly restore it at its location — so that it might display it there.

When the issue came to council in late August, many other suggestions arose: removal because it's not a Canadian weapon; full restoration on site; partial restoration and protection; transformation into a serenity or "contemplation" garden. Some felt strongly one way, others as strongly the other way.

The solution? Council directed staff to host a creative problem session with as many of the key stakeholders as possible to discuss and make recommendations to council. The thinking? Let's get all the pertinent players

in one room and discuss the emotionally-charged matter and, most importantly, try to understand each other.

The well-attended session included: Jake Dilts, Jim Summersides, Bernie Law from the Royal Canadian Legion; Dell Clark, Carolyn Botari, Gary Chambers, interested residents; Mary Lamb, from Pelham Historical Society; seven members of Niagara Military Museum; and Couns. Junkin and Rybiak.

The meeting was very positive and the group was able to work through the process respectfully and came to the conclusion of "How might we help council make a decision to preserve the mortar at its current site?"

I understand that the session included some key "eureka" thoughts and challenges: Because not many know the history of this

German trench mortar, "how might we identify and interpret" the mortar's history?

And, while some initially disliked displaying a "trophy of war," others pointed out it was given to the town in 1921 for a specific goal: How might we "never forget the sacrifice Pelham residents paid in WWI?"

The result? Last week, council agreed to leave the First World War trench mortar at Old Pelham Town Hall and directed staff to work with the group again to form the extent of the restoration and an identification and possible funding sources.

Thanks, again, for the dedication of all involved.

You may contact Major Dave at [mayordave@pelham.ca](mailto:mayordave@pelham.ca) or read past columns at [www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com](http://www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com).



Amaryllis is shown Sept. 22, 1961, in this Dan McCormick photo, courtesy of Brockville Museum.

## Shipwrecks — Amaryllis

SKIP GILLHAM  
For Postmedia Network

Hurricane Betsy caught the Panamanian flag freighter *Amaryllis* off the coast of Florida a little over a half-century ago and put the Canadian-built carrier aground.

It stranded north of Palm Beach on Sept. 7, 1965, while on a voyage, in ballast, from Manchester, England, to Baton Rouge, La.

The crew of *Amaryllis* lived on board and kept up steam for four months in the hope that the vessel could be refloated. But it was not to be.

The stranded ship, located off a popular hotel, became increasingly unpopular with area residents. On the plus side, however, its location created a new sandbar which the local surfing community enjoyed.

Some area youth moved aboard *Amaryllis* but this led to charges of "contributing to juvenile delinquency" being laid against the shipkeeper and he got "60 days." It was not until 1975 that scrapping of the hull finally got underway and a road was built to the beach to haul away the steel.

In time, the superstructure was removed and the lower part of the ship was able to be refloated, towed to another nearby location and sunk as an artificial reef.

This ship had been built for the Canadian Government as *Cromwell Park* in 1945 and had been a St. Lawrence Seaway caller as *Amaryllis* beginning in 1959.

HANDOUT/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

# Guardians of the Niagara Escarpment

The Niagara Escarpment is a protected area under the Province of Ontario's Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act, 1973 and the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

This is Canada's first large-scale environmental land use plan.

The Niagara Escarpment Plan outlines land use designations, development criteria and related permitted uses, including farming, forestry and mineral resource extraction. It also provides a framework for a string of 141 Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Spaces System such as the Ball's Falls Conservation area. These parks and open spaces are linked by the Bruce Trail.

The Niagara Escarpment Commission is an agency of the Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) works on behalf of the people

of Ontario to preserve the escarpment as a continuous natural landscape—a vital corridor of green space through south-central Ontario. The NEC comprises 17 members and a chair, eight members representing municipalities and eight representing the public-at-large. The commission meets on the third Thursday of the month to consider development permit applications, plan amendments and comments on development proposals. Meetings usually take place at the Georgetown office and some staff at the north work out of the Thornbury office.

Policy meetings are held once in the spring and once in the fall and alternate to locations in the south and north.

Niagara Region council is requested to send in "at least three names for consideration to the NEC. A public appointment panel requests a detailed resume from each nominated party who may be interviewed. Recommended names are

then forwarded to the provincial cabinet where an order-in-council is passed to officially appoint a member for a fixed duration. To date I have been appointed for an initial two-year term followed by a three-year term and currently am serving a four-year term. You can read a brief profile of each commissioner on the NEC website.

The 17-member commission is composed of a group of people who are passionate about the role they serve and they bring extremely diversified skill sets to the table. While staff reports are regularly affirmed there are many occasions on which commissioners recommended

alterations to the conditions of approval and there are even circumstances where they reverse the staff report recommendations. In this sense the deliberations are similar to a court hearing.

During the past three years the NEC has taken on a thorough review of the escarpment plan. Other plans under review are The Greenbelt Plan, The Oak Ridges Moraine Plan, the Provincial Growth Plan and, more recently, the Conservation Authority Act review. Policy papers have been developed proposing common use of terms across all plans, a streamlining housekeeping of the various

plans, an attempt to harmonize terms across all plans and a clear affirmation of the role of agriculture in the plan area.

Consideration has also been given to alterations to the plan boundaries and updated mapping using modern technology. I have often been questioned about roadway signs identifying the Niagara Escarpment so the next article will feature the nature of escarpment areas and a map to delineate the boundaries of those areas in Pelham.

Brian Baty is a regional councillor for Pelham and a commissioner on the Niagara Escarpment Commission. E-mail: brian.baty@niagararegion.ca.

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## Michael Mann

Michael is a member of the corporate-commercial team at Lancaster, Brooks & Welch, where he provides advice regarding the various methods of carrying on a business. He assists in the incorporation and organization of companies and drafts security agreements, shareholder agreements, leases, franchise agreements and other documents of a corporate or commercial nature for clients. Michael also provides services as a registered trademark agent.



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# LOCAL NEWS

■ **TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES:** Handmade rugs from Pakistan for sale at Pelham church

## Fair trade found underfoot in Fonthill

GREG FURMINGER  
Postmedia Network

They are ornate pieces of art that can be walked all over.

In doing so, their owners are symbolically putting their foot down on unfair labour practices in developing nations.

About 200 of these Oriental rugs, as they are called, boast traditional Persian, Bokhara and tribal styles, including Chobis, and are on display and for sale at a Ten Thousand Villages event being staged over nine days at Fonthill United Church, ending this Saturday.

The Port Colborne store managed by Jane Nigh and Kim Hart hosts the event every two years.

Ten Thousand Villages, which sells artisan-crafted personal accessories, home decor and gift items from

around the world, is the oldest and largest fair-trade organization in North America. The movement is aimed at bringing justice and hope to the poor by giving them opportunities for being paid fair wages and improving their personal welfare.

Gwen Repeta, manager of a Ten Thousand Villages store in Winnipeg and the Canadian overseer of the roaming collection of rugs that next will be presented in Montreal, said the beautiful creations procured from the Bunyaad company in Pakistan promote awareness of not only the stores, but raises dialogue on the fair-trade movement itself.

"Who's making them? How are they paid? How does it affect their life?" are some of the questions that could be raised, she said.

People who turn out to the rug event under the next

### BUNYAAD RUG EVENT

Fonthill United Church on Canboro Rd.  
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Online:  
[tenthousandvillages.ca/rugsearch](http://tenthousandvillages.ca/rugsearch),  
[tenthousandvillages.com](http://tenthousandvillages.com)

week will have varying reasons for doing so.

"Some do care about the ethics," Repeta said.

Some will come simply looking for something special, "a good quality product," with which to adorn their home.

All can be viewed online at [rugsearch.tenthousandvillages.com](http://rugsearch.tenthousandvillages.com).

Fashioned by Christians and Muslims working together in homes and tiny village centres, the rugs



GREG FURMINGER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Jane Nigh and Gwen Repeta sit among about 200 fair-trade Bunyaad rugs handmade in Pakistan that are on display and for sale in Fonthill through Ten Thousand Villages.

are made under no quotas to meet, no deadlines, no directions.

Every rug made is prepared by Bunyaad, which, said Repeta, affords artisans freedom to create as

they wish.

Some are of hand-spun wool, some machine-spun. Priced in the hundreds of dollars, they are dyed the centuries-old way using walnut shells, plants,

insects.

Some may take well more than a year to produce, the intricate designs alone requiring months to plot out on graph paper. The rug wool can be as tight as 800 knots per square inch.

Repeta said price is determined by the number of colours used, intricacy of designs and knotting. That is all reflected in the amount of time taken to produce each rug.

"Your prices reflect labour."

Woolen from the wool, though difficult to accept dye, while knotted so closely together gives the rugs an inherent stain resistance, said Nigh.

"They're heirloom rugs that will last 100 to 200 years."

[greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca](http://greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca)  
Twitter: @GregATheTrib

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## RECREATION PROGRAMS & CLASS

### Zumba Classes @ Pelham Arena – Drop-ins Welcome!

Tuesday, October 6	9:30 – 10:30 am
Tuesday, October 6	7:00 – 8:00 pm
Wednesday, October 7	7:30 – 8:30 pm
Thursday, October 8	10:00-11:00 am

### Walking Club - Everyone is welcome!

Interested in joining a Walking Club? Then join ours! Tuesdays at Pelham Arena from 9–10 am & Thursdays at Fonthill Bandshell from 9–10:30 am. For more info, contact (905) 892-2607 ext. 329.

### Arena Programs

Public Skating	Adult Public Skating	Adult/Preschool	Men's Shiny Hockey	Women's Shiny Hockey	Women's Learn to Play Hockey	Pelham Panthers-Home Games
Sunday Oct 4 1:00-2:20 pm Tuesday Oct 6 4:00-5:00 pm Friday Oct 9 1:00-2:00 8:00-9:30	Thursday, Oct 8 1:00-2:00 pm	Tuesday, Oct 6 1:00-2:00 pm Friday, Oct 9 10:00-11:00 am	Tuesday, Oct 6 8:00-9:00 am Friday, Oct 9 9:00-10:00 am	Monday Oct 5 9:30-10:45 am Thursday Oct 8 10:30-11:45 am	Thursday, Oct 8 9:30-10:30 am	Tuesday, Oct 6 7:00 pm vs. Ancaster Friday, Oct 16 7:30 pm vs. Welland

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### CASUAL SIDEWALK SNOW PLOW OPERATOR



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Hours of work will vary and include nights and weekends.

Visit [pelham.ca/career-opportunities](http://pelham.ca/career-opportunities) for more information and to apply by Friday, October 2, 2015

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Friday, October 9, 2015  
Friday, January 15, 2016



Is your child ready to stay home alone? The Home Alone Safety for Kids program helps children and their families get ready for their child's first steps towards independence and being without adult supervision. This safety program is ideally suited for children ages 9-12 years old.

Safety and accident prevention are the common theme throughout the program. Cost is \$60 and includes a pizza lunch. Course will run from 9:00 am-4:00 pm at the Pelham Arena, 1120 Hault St. in Fonthill.

Registration is available online at [pelham.ca](http://pelham.ca) or at Town Hall, 20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill. Contact Julie Cook at [jcook@pelham.ca](mailto:jcook@pelham.ca) or 905-892-2607 ext. 329 for more details.

## ■ BUSINESS

## Changes brewing in beer business

TONY RICCIUTO  
Postmedia Network

Ontario residents are getting thirstier by the day waiting for Ontario's Liberal government to release more information about where and when people will be able to start buying beer in grocery stores.

Earlier this year, the provincial government announced it was expanding big beer sales by up to 450 more locations so that Ontarians would have more convenience and choice than just the Beer Store outlets.

And at a press conference on Wednesday, Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne said beer in grocery stores could be seen "as a holiday present that many people have been waiting for a long time." Wynne said, "that wait is over."

It's still unclear exactly when beer sales will start in grocery stores.

At least 60 grocery stores across the province are expected to carry beer by Christmas, and in 450 supermarkets within three years.

One local businessman who has tried to stay on top of this issue is Rocco Commisso, president and owner of the family operated grocery store chain.

"We haven't received any information and they are not really saying too much about who qualifies," said Commisso, who is

waiting to see if a store's size would qualify, or if it will only apply to larger supermarkets.

"It's quite frustrating as a independent grocer to be in the loop when they are keeping things so hush, hush," said Commisso. "We've heard that some stores will be carrying it by December and that we might be able to sell singles and six packs."

It's being reported that the first batch of licences will be limited to 25 grocery stores in the Greater Toronto Area, 16 in western Ontario, 13 in the east and six in the north, which is divided further among large, medium and small operators.

Grocery stores will also be required to devote 20 per cent of their beer shelf space to products from Ontario's small and craft breweries.

"I think that is great, and in my business I would even dedicate more," said Commisso. "To me, it's just like the wine industry and supporting our local wine or our local craft breweries and trying to promote the unique brands to our customers."

A 10-year agreement between the government and foreign-owned Brewers Retail, which owns 447 Beer Store outlets, will keep the same prices wherever beer is sold.

Other changes also announced by the premier earlier this week include a move to open up the Beer Store ownership to other players in the industry and also allowing 9,000 smaller bars and restaurants to buy beer at retail prices instead of paying premium rates.

Wynne said their objective is to keep prices low and level the playing field.

Gerry Saleva, who is a partner at Brimstone Brewing Co. in Ridgeway along with Jason Plazianka and Rod Dingle, welcomes the latest news from the province.

"We are very happy and excited for the new opportunity that the grocery channel will provide in terms of significantly increasing the ability to make our craft beer available to new customers," said Saleva. "It will increase the visibility of our brewery and brands which currently cannot be accessed by consumers other than from our retail space."

As a small brewery, he adds, they are quite interested in working with independent grocery stores.

"From our discussion with this group, they will have a distinct focus on local and craft. Hopefully some Niagara-based independent grocers will get the chance to sell beer and consumers will get a better variety of the amazing Ontario craft beer being brewed. We also believe that a co-distribution will give small breweries like us a shot at selling into the big box stores where they have a regional focus or consumer demand."

Ontario's Craft Brewers, an association of small, independent craft brewers, said they are pleased that the province's beer agreements have been finalized so that full implementation can begin immediately.

"These changes go a long way in unlocking our ability to achieve our goal of having a craft brewery in every city and town in the province," said John Hay, president of Ontario's Craft Brewers. "As we've said before, this will double or triple the number of jobs in large and small communities across Ontario."

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## FEDERAL ELECTION

# Niagara West candidates discuss jobs, terrorism and poverty

ALLAN BENNER  
Postmedia Network

Niagara West's incumbent member of Parliament, Dean Allison, is adamant that foreign trade deals will help local manufacturing companies prosper, but his opponents blame those same trade deals for the loss of 20,000 jobs across Niagara in the past decade.

During a televised debate broadcast live by TVCogeco last Wednesday night, New Democratic Party candidate Nameer Rahman said past trade deals are doing more harm than good.

"Mr. Allison talks about trade deals that allowed 20,000 jobs in the Niagara region to walk out," Rahman said. "That's roughly 40 per cent of our manufacturing jobs that left the region in the last 10 years, and that's quite the loss."

Rahman said the federal government is also "trading away at least 10 per cent of the market in Canada rules for our locally produced goods and services such as cars." As a result, he estimated that "another 20,000 manufacturing jobs" will be lost. The debate, organized by the cable television provider in partnership with area chambers of commerce, included four of the five candidates running in the Niagara West riding, which includes Pelham and Watfren. In addition to Allison, the Conservative standardbearer, and Rahman, Liberal candidate Phil Rose said he came from the Green party answered question submitted by individuals and organizations from throughout the riding — covering topics including job creation, controversial anti-terrorism legislation and poverty.

Allison said Canada will be left behind if it opts out of international trade agreements.

"One thing I've noticed being in parliament is the fact that the NDP has a hard time actually supporting trade deals," Allison said. "The reality is, we're in a global economy."

While Allison agreed that the region has lost manufacturing jobs, he said the Trans-Pacific Partnership will open the door to 800 million addi-



Niagara West candidates prepare for TVCogeco's election debate.

ALLAN BENNER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

tional potential customers and a \$28-trillion economy.

If Canada isn't part of that trade deal, he warned, industries will be at a disadvantage compared to "a whole bunch of countries that are going to have reduced tariffs."

Allison said he was confident that Canada's educated workforce "can compete with anyone in the world, and I believe we're doing so."

He said there are about 800 manufacturing industries remaining in Niagara, and listed several of them that "are kicking butt."

"They're doing great in manufacturing," Allison said, adding the government needs to "give the businesses an opportunity to succeed and create new markets that they can sell their goods into."

Frere was also concerned about the impact trade deals are having on Canadian jobs.

"We need to establish a system of retaining jobs in this country instead of letting them go offshore, the big expensive ones, and leaving only the cheap ones for our own people. It's time we took serious measures to develop our own economy within our borders," he said. "Our trade agreements and so on have done grave damage to this job situation."

Rose said the Liberal party plans to invest in infrastructure to cultivate job creation and economic growth.

"We are proposing to invest in major quantities," he said.

Transit, affordable housing, long-term care facilities and green infrastructure projects are a few areas where the Liberals plan to invest, creating jobs in each of those industries.

Rose said his party also plans to create jobs for young people.

"We want to make sure they don't have to leave Niagara in order to work elsewhere," he said.

The anti-terrorism act, Bill C-51, was another divisive issue for the candidates Wednesday.

Frere called the legislation a violation of constitutional rights.

"We have rights and freedoms and we should maintain those rights and freedoms. We've lost them under this bill," he said. "In our whole history, we've never had anything like this and I think it's a risky thing to get into it now."

And Rahman, who said he

grew up in Bangladesh under military rule, described the legislation as "unconscionable."

"Our rights under the constitution are being peeled back, bit by bit," Rahman said, adding the NDP will repeal the bill if elected.

In response, Allison pointed out a recent terrorist plot in Niagara through which a group of people planned to blow up a train bridge.

"We live in different times now," he said.

Rose said the Liberal party agrees with an expanded military list, as well as greater information sharing between federal government agencies and police services. However, he said a Liberal government would "fix the bill because there are issues yet to be addressed."

Rose's comments also drew criticism from Rahman, who said the Liberals claimed to be against certain provisions of the legislation, but then voted in favour of it.



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"There is no moral clarity with the Liberal party when it comes to Bill C-51, and we firmly believe this is an affront to our constitutional rights," Rahman said. "It fundamentally un-Canadian at the end of the day."

The elimination of poverty was something on which all four candidates agreed, however they disagreed about how to accomplish that goal.

Rahman said the NDP would target critical issues such as minimum wage, job retraining, senior citizens care and health care.

"These are all elements that tie into a poverty reduction strategy," he said.

Rose discussed investments planned by the Liberals to invest in affordable housing, to lift families and seniors out of poverty.

A new child benefit plan would also "lift something in the order of 300,000 young people out of poverty," he said.

And seniors would benefit from a 10 per cent increase to their guaranteed income supplement, he added.

Frere said the Green party believes we should implement a guaranteed livable income, and ensure equal pay for equal work.

"We need high quality child care so families that have two parents or one parent can live without begging," he said.

Allison said it's difficult to develop a national strategy to reduce poverty when the provincial governments say "Don't tell us how we need to spend our money."

He said the federal government also offers the universal child-care benefit for families. But Frere said the federal government "takes away \$2,000 from families, and returns for a child benefit about \$13 to \$15 and claims they're giving them a gift."

Rahman said tax credits are useless for some impoverished people.

"When you talk about tax credits, at the end of the day, you have to earn an income to get a tax credit," he said. "Unless we're getting to the point where people are earning incomes, tax credits don't mean anything."

The candidates responded to several other questions, about topics including infrastructure investment, climate change, agriculture and legalizing marijuana.

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## TRANSIT

# Uber makes its case for Niagara business

**KARENA WALTER**  
Postmedia Network

The controversial transportation network company Uber made its pitch for new regulations to the Niagara Regional Police services board last week as it considers the local market.

"Existing regulations just don't contemplate what we're doing," Chris Schaefer, public policy manager of Uber Canada, told the police board, which oversees Niagara's vehicles-for-hire licensing bylaw.

Schaefer said UberX — a peer-to-peer ride-sharing program arranged through a mobile phone app — doesn't pick up street hails or occupy taxi stands because it doesn't want anonymous passengers.

Riders request a driver through the app, see them arriving in real time and are e-mailed a receipt so there's no cash exchange. Drivers and riders rate each other and can be taken off the system if they get a bad rating.

Schaefer said the majority of Uber drivers, who undergo background and vehicle checks, work less than 10 hours a week to pick up some extra income.

Regulatory burdens in the traditional taxi model — such as requiring dome lights on the roof — don't make sense for the Uber model, Schaefer said.

"We want to be regulated, but we want to be regulated in a smart way that recognizes some of the fundamental differences about ride sharing," he said.

Uber is proposing regions adopt transportation network company regulations, separate from taxi rules.

More than 50 jurisdictions in the United States have adopted

those regulations, but Canadian cities have yet to jump on board — though the idea is being contemplated in Edmonton, Ottawa, Toronto and Waterloo.

"There's an opportunity here in the region of Niagara to be real leaders and embrace this opportunity and frankly, be first out of the gate in Canada," Schaefer said.

But Uber, which claims its rates are 30 to 50 per cent less than traditional taxis, has come under fire by taxi companies across the world, including in Niagara.

Hanif Patni, president and CEO of Coventry Connections Inc. which runs Niagara's largest cab company Central Taxi, said the taxi industry wants a level playing field.

"If Uber can set surge prices and set what they want, why can't taxi companies?" he asked outside the board meeting, which he attended to hear the presentation.

"Our worry at the end of the day is that we have safety."

The taxi industry has invested "insane amounts of money" based on the laws established, Patni said, adding Uber can't slip under the web without those costs.

"I think it is important for the board to understand what Uber is proposing and how it could affect full-time drivers in Niagara trying to make a living."

Full-time taxi drivers in the region, for instance, are required to have commercial insurance for their cabs, which costs \$6,000 to \$7,000 a cab, he said.

"Does the taxi industry need less requirements or does Uber need to meet them?" Patni asked.



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CAROL HARTY INC.

■ **ACCOLADES:** Sixty-three nominated for Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce honours

## Ruby Award nominees announced

Postmedia Network

A committee of judges will have a tough job ahead of them, choosing the winners from a group of 63 of Welland and Pelham's best and brightest businesses and individuals.

Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce announced the nominees for the 2015 Ruby

Awards last week.

The organization's special events and communications co-ordinator Katie Alde called it a big job, "but it's an exciting one."

Alde said the judging committee is comprised of Chamber of Commerce board members, as well as members of the community.

She said she was impressed

with last year's event, "and it's going to be even better this year."

"We have lots of surprises," she said.

The Ruby Awards ceremony will be held Friday, Oct. 16, at Lookout Point Golf and Country Club, from 6 to 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 each, or \$40 per person when booking a table of eight or more.

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## THE NOMINEES ARE...

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**Mary Anne Christoff**  
**Community Service Award:** Debbie McIntyre, Don Thorpe,

Mark Holmes, Pam Swick, Janja, Rob Noyes, Dr. Thomas Egan, Tom Liszt, Tim Proctor.

### Business of the Year

nominees were business of the month winners: Bissell's Hidesway Resort, Matteo's Ristorante, Dun-Rite Aluminum and Vinyl Ltd., Niagara Street Pharmacy, The Wine Garden of Pelham, Fuzzy Logic Eat & Drink Haus, Prime Way Group, Best Western Plus Rose City Suites, Vermeer's Garden Centre and Flower Shop, Don Marco's Italian Eatery, Ella Bella Bum Inc., Glen-Merritt Auto Collision.

### Employee of the Year/

**Excellence in Service Award:** Shawn Raimondo, Hunters Point Golf Course; Julia Contois, Boston Pizza; Steve Warankio, EnVivo-Niagara Heating & Air Conditioning; Anthony Ientresca, Presstime Design; and Wendy Robins, Noyes Jewellers.

### Venture Niagara Women

**In Business Award:** Melissa Wells, myNiagaraOnline; Brigitte Boucher, Isis Body Sugaring & Esthetics; Nyara Kapisaaruvu, TOES Niagara; Rebecca Sheppit, Niagara Virtual Office; and Samantha Campbell, Ella Bella Bum Inc.

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■ **CLOSEUP:** Apple farmers say this year's crop is exceptionally tasty

# From hard work to harvest

FRANKI IKEMAN  
Postmedia Network

The apple harvest is here and local farmers say it's later than ever.

The apple season, which started with early varieties mid-August and is now seeing the more popular types come ready, is expected to continue until the end of October.

"We actually have some early apples, so we started harvesting in August. We have some early varieties that are delicious right off the tree," said Kim Duffin of Duffin Farms in Fordville.

The early varieties might be great freshly picked, but Duffin said they don't keep well — unlike the varieties picked now which will store and be sold fresh all winter long at the farm's on-property market store.

This year's crop, Duffin said, is juicier and fuller-flavoured than others years. She said however that a small amount of her crop saw some frost damage — an issue she said was worse for farmers that don't plant the same volume of apples her farm does.

"The quality of the apples is exceptional, the taste is outstanding however the challenge we had this year is we had some frost damage," she said.

"We were fortunate, we have enough planted of everything."

To the west of Duffin's Fordville orchard, another apple farmer — DeVries Fruit Farms in Fenwick — said they combat the frost with wind machines.

The machines, which were installed five years ago, help to move warmer air through the orchard, so that frost stays off the plants Dan DeVries said.

DeVries said despite the frost some orchards experienced, this season has had ideal weather for apple growing.

"We had just enough heat and just enough rain and everything's just kind of worked out together," DeVries said, adding that the warmer temperatures over the last few weeks have really helped the apple crop flourish.

"This year in particular has been a really unique year for all the crops I think," he said. "The flavour has been fantastic."

Both farmers pick their apples by hand, waiting until the apple

is at its ideal ripeness and colour before it leaves the tree.

"We thin by hand so then we do what we call spot picking because in a tree, just like in nature, everything isn't ready at once, so you have to be able to read the tree and take the apples off the tree (when they're ready)," Duffin said.

"All the apples are hand picked and we're checking the maturity of the apples on a weekly basis," DeVries said.

Checking the apples' maturity is mostly done, he said, with his taste buds.

"If their flavour's at what we think they should be at, then we pick them. A lot of it's looking at colour too," he said.

The apple season typically lasts until late October or early November.

"Sometimes we're actually picking apples when the snow flies. We've been known to pick our apples when it's been trickling snowflakes. But usually the end of October, the first week of November sometime," Duffin said.

And when the season for fresh apples may only last a couple of months for most people, the farm work doesn't end when the apple falls to the ground.

Winter months are spent pruning and tending to the orchards to ensure a successful harvest the following fall.

Niagara — known for its tender fruit and grape growing — doesn't have a large number of apple growers, said Kelly Ciceran, general manager of the Ontario Apple Growers.

"I think because it's such an amazing location or spot for the tender fruit and the grape industry," Ciceran said. That's not to say that it's not a great spot for apple growing also, she said, as apples do best when surrounded by large bodies of water, such as the Great Lakes.

She said the province in general is great for growing apples.

"Ontario has a great climate for growing apples," she said.

She added that a lot of the Niagara growers are very diverse, growing not only apples but other tender fruits and produce also. Apples that are coming off the trees now include Royal Gala, Spartan, McIntosh, Empire and some Honey Cispas.

DeVries Fruit Farms sells their produce at the St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Port

Colborne and Fonthill farmers' markets as well as at their farm on Canboro Rd. in Fenwick.

Duffin Farms sells their products at their farm store on Rice Rd. in Fordville.

DeVries said people should take advantage of the local apples — and buy from local

farmers.

"There's lots of farms in the area. Just get out on the road and drive around and try to support as many local farms as possible."

franki.ikeman@sunmedia.ca  
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David Hunt picks apples at Duffin Farms.

FRANKI IKEMAN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

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Nominations are open until November 30, and nomination forms are available from this newspaper, and the Ontario Community Newspapers Association at [www.ocna.org](http://www.ocna.org) or 905-639-8720 ext. 4439.

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## Rodman Hall enhances collection with purchase

**JOHN LAW**  
Postmedia Network

An endowment award has enabled Rodman Hall Arts Centre to purchase a popular work created on its property three years ago.

*Settlement*, an outdoor installation by aboriginal artist Mary Anne Barkhouse, will be staying put after the gallery received a York Wilson Endowment award of \$30,000 last week from the Canada Council for the Arts.

"This would have been the last year, and it would have been dismantled," says Rodman Hall curator Stuart Reid. "She probably would have been able to sell it to somebody else. We're really thrilled that it's staying because it's become a real storytelling point here on our site."

Titled *Settlement*, the piece was created to coincide with the bicentenary of the War of 1812. It examines issues of sovereignty and confederacy from both an indigenous and ecological view point, using an artist's garden in the shape of a frontier house. Within the interior are bronze statues of a coyote and badger, two hunters who have been known to co-oper-

ate with each other to find burrowing prey in the wild. They allude to the co-operative nature of the allies during the War of 1812.

Nature plays a key role in the installation, as it blooms every spring with the indigenous plants Barkhouse used, including corn, squash, beans and quinoa.

The piece has proven useful for Brock staff and interns, who use it as subject matter in First Nations art and revisionist history for their classrooms.

"The piece is really about issues of territory," says Reid. "Not just land struggles between people, but also amongst plants and animals."

Born in Vancouver, Barkhouse belongs to the Nimpkish band, Kwakwaka'wakw First Nation. Her art has been exhibited across Canada and the U.S. She currently lives in Minden, Ont.

Reid says acquiring the piece is an important addition to the gallery's collection of works by First Nations artists, which are currently underrepresented. Rodman Hall is located at 109 St. Paul Crescent.

[john.law@summa.ca](mailto:john.law@summa.ca)

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■ **TRANSPORTATION:** Niagara Region chair hopeful for 'positive news' later this year

# Don't 'read too much' into Niagara's absence from GO report

**RAY SPITERI**  
Postmedia Network

Metrolinx is evaluating 50 potential sites for new GO stations, but none are in Niagara.

That doesn't concern Niagara Region Chair Alan Caslin, who said the sites being looked at are in more established GO areas.

"A lot of these communities have had business cases for a long, long time," he said.

"We're still relatively new in bringing our business case forward."

The new locations being considered are along the Lakeshore East and West lines, as well as along the Barrie, Stouffville, Kitchener, Richmond Hill and Milton lines.

"Recent investments in the transit network in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area provide an opportunity to consider new stations and the expansion of stations on the GO network," said Metrolinx, in its New Station Analysis.



BOB TYMCZYNSKI/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Niagara presented its GO to Niagara business plan to Ontario Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca in April and are hoping to hear "positive news" later this year.

Metrolinx said the next stage of analysis will lead to a short list of stations that will be determined following municipal and public engagement, and will include business-case assessments.

The GO rail regional net-

work currently consists of seven lines with 63 stations that join up with 12 local transit networks in the GTA and surrounding regions.

St. Catharines Mayor Walter Szendzik said he doesn't see Niagara not being mentioned

as one of the 50 sites as a step back for the GO to Niagara file. But he said he is disappointed Niagara was not mentioned in the report, especially since the province recently announced an extension of the service to Stony Creek.

"It's concerning for me. We should be on that list and considered as one of the 50," said Szendzik, adding there needs to be a regional link between Niagara and Hamilton.

Caslin said Niagara only submitted its business case

for year-round GO train service in the region to the provincial government this past April, so he's not surprised to see Niagara absent from the Metrolinx report.

"I wouldn't read too much into it," he said.

Caslin said "it was a very welcome surprise" for Hamilton officials to hear expanded GO rail service was coming to their community, and Niagara officials "continue to put our best foot forward" in putting this region in a similar position.

"Hamilton is supportive of our push, and we have strong support in our communities, all levels of government, and business."

"We have a sound business case, and a positive message."

Caslin said the Niagara delegation which submitted the business case to the province continue to have dialogue with Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca's office, as well as the premier's office.

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# The miracle revisited: Roger Woodward back in the Falls

## JOHN LAW

Postmedia Network

On a July day 55 years ago, seven-year-old Roger Woodward became part of Niagara Falls folklore when he survived being swept over the Horseshoe Falls.

On a day meant to celebrate his older sister's birthday, he instead made history.

Nowadays, Woodward speaks about that day a lot. Likely because he went decades barely speaking about it at all.

"My sister and I, for 34 years we never talked about it," says Woodward on the line from his home in Hunstville, Ala. "And my sister and I are extremely close."

That's because this inspiring story which made headlines around the world was also a day of tragedy and incredible trauma. A boy lived, but a man died. Woodward's 17-year-old sister was barely rescued before she reached the edge.

Newspapers couldn't get enough of the only known survivor of an unaided trip over the falls. It proved too much for Woodward's parents. Even in the

pre-Internet age of 1960, the notoriety of that day followed them everywhere. After moving to Niagara Falls, N.Y., in 1960, they left two years later.

"My parents just wanted to get away," recalls Woodward, who speaks at the annual Niagara Falls Prayer Breakfast at Club Italia Oct. 2. "There was so much commotion and disruption to the family."

After they moved, they asked Roger and his sister Deanne not to discuss the incident or "anything about Niagara Falls." It wasn't until he was in high school, living in Lakeland, Fla., that a reporter tracked the family down and prompted Roger to share the story once again.

"The people I went to school with didn't know anything about it," he says. "We just never told people about it."

As the years passed, Woodward revisited the day he should have died. As he talks, he can virtually smell the Niagara River. Feel the mist. The sensation of being pulled under water then thrust up again as the tip of the Horseshoe Falls crept closer.

It was meant to be a day of celebration when family friend Rick Honeycutt offered to take young Roger for his first-ever boat ride. To mark his sister's 17th birthday, he wanted to take them on a tour of the area via the upper Niagara River. Woodward's mom had one condition: Roger was to wear a life-jacket, because he couldn't swim.

On the afternoon of July 9, 1960, the 12-foot aluminum boat set out down the river, approaching the Grand Island Bridge on the U.S. side. To local boaters, the bridge served as the unofficial cut-off point before you risked the falls' wrath.

Honeycutt briefly let Roger steer, and as the currents grew stronger the propeller hit a rock. The engine made an ugly sound and Honeycutt turned it off. But the boat had no anchor or rescue line, and it was now heading into the rapids.

Woodward recalls Honeycutt telling Deanne to put a life-jacket on. Then the real nightmare began.

Waves slammed the boat and filled it with water. Everyone was forced into the rapids and lost



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Seven-year-old Roger Woodward shortly after he survived going over the Horseshoe Falls, with GNH nurse Eleanor Weaver.

track of each other. Woodward recalls seeing people running along the shoreline on Goat Island, trying to reach his sister. It was like no one noticed him.

He recalls a moment of peace as he knew he was about to die. He thought of his parents. His dog. His toys. Then it was like he was floating in a cloud. He was enveloped in mist as he made the 167-foot drop into the lower river. As he hit the water everything went dark before his life-jacket brought him to the surface again. He had somehow survived something which had claimed countless lives. A nearby Maid of the Mist boat raced to the scene, battling the choppy water to reel him in without running him over. On the third attempt, he latched onto an orange ring which pulled him aboard.

He didn't realize what had happened until he lay in a hospital bed weeks later. Longtime *Review* photographer Ron Roels took a bedside shot of Woodward with Greater Niagara General Hospital nurse Eleanor Weaver. It's one of the most famous photos in the paper's history.

It was the same nurse who, years later, told Woodward it was "healthy" to talk about the incident when he returned to the area years later for a documentary.

"That made me realize it's OK," he says. "This is a part of my history. I don't claim anything from it, but I didn't do anything wrong. As a young child I just didn't understand. 'Why don't we talk about it?' I was told not to."

Once he finally spoke to his sister about it, some surprising new information hit Woodward. For one, the man who reached through a guard rail to grab Deanne missed on his first attempt. A desperate second attempt was only successful because she caught his thumb.

Otherwise, she would have likely died.

More than five decades later, only two other people have survived an unaided plunge over the Horseshoe Falls — Kirk Jones in 2003, and a still unidentified man in 2009. But Woodward isn't philosophical about that day, despite the astronomical odds against him.

## WHO WHAT WHEN/why?

### Who

Roger Woodward

### What

Niagara Falls Prayer Breakfast

### Where

Club Italia, 2525 Montrose Rd., Niagara Falls

### When

Oct. 2, 6 a.m.

### Tickets

\$15 general, \$8 students.  
905-357-5555 ext. 247

"I'm not a person who puts any emphasis on luck or odds," he says. "The bible and spirit are my compass and guide in things that I do in life."

"Beating the odds? I know this goes against the grain with the casinos up there, but I really don't believe in luck. I believe that through faith and prayer, combined with inspiration and sweat, you can accomplish the things you want."

Coming back to the Falls is not a stressful thing for him, he adds. More than ever, he's "awestruck" by what surrounds him.

"I'm just amazed how much water and power there is," he says. "Water that think about it, the volume of water that is flowing there is just incredible. I love the Great Lakes, they're just absolutely magnificent."

"When I talk to people or tell the story, I can almost spontaneously smell the water again."

john.law@summedia.ca



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